Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 USIE-00 HEW-04 OES-06 EURE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1134

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 PRAGUE 2792

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, CZ

SUBJECT: CULTURAL-SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES TALKS

REFS A. PRAGUE 2550

- B. PRAGUE 2448
- C. PRAGUE 2551
- D. STATE 224549
- E. STATE 235186
- F. PRAGUE 2553

SUMMARY: SEPTEMBER 23 DISCUSSIONS WERE TOUGHEST YET,
BUT RESULTED IN MEASURED PROGRESS, ESPECIALLY ON CULTURAL
EXCHANGE ARTICLE. AT OUTSET, CZECHOSLOVAK NEGOTIATOR
ZEMLA INVITED U.S. REACTIONS TO CZECHOSLOVAK LANGUAGE TABLED
SEPTEMBER 2 BUT DID NOT TABLE ANY NEW LANGUAGE OF HIS OWN.
ZEMLA DECLARED THAT THE TIME WAS RIPE FOR CONCLUDING AN
AGREEMENT WITHOUT UNNECESSARY DELAYS, BUT DURING COURSE
OF THE MORNING STRONG DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES OVER
SOME KEY ISSUES MADE IT CERTAIN AT LEAST ONE MORE
MEETING WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED
ON SEVERAL BASIC QUESTIONS, AMONG THEM THE MENTIONING
OF "INDIVIDUALS" IN IMPLEMENTATION ARTICLE, MEDIA
COOPERATION AND REFERENCE TO CULTURAL CENTERS.
GREATEST PROGRESS ACHIEVED WAS CZECHOSLOVAK ACCEPTANCE
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OF SIZEABLE PART OF U.S. DRAFT LANGUAGE ON MEDIA

COOPERATION. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 1. FYI WE WILL TRANSMIT SEPTEL A FULL
TEXT OF U.S. DRAFT AS IT STANDS. END FYI. END SUMMARY

- 1. AMBASSADOR PRESENTED INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS ABOUT NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TO DR. ZEMLA, EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY INITIATIVE IN U.S. ACADEMIC SYSTEM.
- 2. IMPLEMENTATION ARTICLE AMBASSADOR REVIEWED ARGUMENTS FOR SPELLING OUT ROLE FOR "INDIVIDUALS" IN IMPLEMENTATION ARTICLE AND URGED CZECHOSLOVAKS TO RECONSIDER THEIR STAND. ZEMLA AGAIN PUT UP STRONG RESISTANCE AND ASKED US TO "BE REALISTIC" AND NOT EXPECT A "PERFECT" AGREEMTN. WE DID NOT TABLE COMPROMISE LANGUAGE SUGGESTED REF, B, PARA. 4.
- 3. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REVIEW OF ARTICLE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REVEALED ONLY MINOR DISAGREEMENTS OF AN EDITORIAL CHARACTER, EXCEPT THAT U.S. SIDE DELAYED AGREEING TO ANY LANGUAGE ON PATENTS AND LICENSING FOR TACTICAL REASONS. U.S. TEAM HAD COMBINED AND SLIGHTLY MODIFIED FIRST TWO ARTICLES IN CZECHOSLOVAK SCIENTIFIC DRAFT, REF C, TO ELIMINATE REPTITION AND PROVIDE SYMMETRY WITH INTRODUCTORY ARTICLE OF CULTURAL DRAFT. CZECHOSLOVAKS HESITATED TO ACCEPT OUR REVISION, BUT NEVERTHELESS TERMED THE QUESTION A "MINOR, TECHNICAL" ONE. THEY ASKED THAT PHRASE "PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE" -- ORIGINALLY IN U.S. SCIENTIFIC DRAFT -- BE INSERTED IN LEAD ARTICLE THUS: "THE CONTRACTING PARTIES . . . SHALL PROVIDE IN THE FIELDS OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE, ETC." AS THIS TERMICNOLOGY WAS OURS TO BEGIN WITH WE SEE NO REASON TO OPPOSE IT. ASSUME DEPARTMENT AGREES.
- 4. SCHOLARSHIPS WE MADE PITCH SUGGESTED IN PARA 1, REF D, TO DELETE ALL REFERENCE TO SCHOLARSHIPS IN SCIENTIFIC PART OF AGREEMENT, BUT ZEMLA INSISTED THAT GOC MUST HAVE MENTION OF EXCHANGE OF SCHOLARSHIPS IN BOTH PARTS "FOR PRACTICAL REASONS." ZEMLA WOULD STILL CONFIDENTIAL

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LIKE TO COMBINE CZECHOSLOVAK AND U.S. LANGUAGE AS REPORTED PARA. 6, REFTEL A. ACTION REQUESTED: DOES DEPARTMENT HAVE STRONG PREFERENCE AS TO FORM OF LANGUAGE ON SCHOLARSHIPS, OR MAY WE PUT LANGUAGE OF PARA. 1, REFTEL D, IN BOTH SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL SECTIONS?

5. PATENTS AND LICENSING: - WE DECIDED NOT TO OFFER

COMPROMISE FORMULATION/ "LICENSING" (REFTEL D, PARA. 2) UNTIL CZECHOSLOVAKS REVEAL THEIR STAND ON IMPORTANT ITEMS IN CULTURAL SECTION. ACCORDINGLY, WE SAID WE WERE NOT YET READY TO RESPOND TO THEIR PROPOSAL THAT THE ITEM BE INCLUDED. WE DID NOT, ON THE OTHER HAND, RULE OUT ITS INCLUSION.

- 6. CULTURAL EXCHANGES CZECHOSLOVAKS CAME CLOSER TO MEETING US ON NEW MEDIA LANGUAGE (REFTEL A, PARA. 18) THAN WE HAD EXPECTED, BUT BALKED AT INCLUSION OF MENTION OF "PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPAPERS" AND OF "CULTURAL CENTERS". WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE MADE FAIRLY GENEROUT CONCESSION IN AGREEING TO ALLOW "ACCESS TO READING ROOMS", AND THAT THEY HAVE AGREED TO MORE THAN WHAT USG ACHIEVED IN CSCE ON SUBJECT OF ACCESS TO SUCH FACILITIES.
- 7. HUMANITIES AND SCIENCE WE REVIEWED CULTURAL SECTION WITH CZECHOSLOVAKS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAS 4-10 OF REFTEL D. CZECHOSLOVAKS MADE STRONG PITCH TO REMOVE SPECIFIC MENTION OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FROM LEAD PARAGRAPH SAYING THAT IT EMPHASIZED UNDULY THE PHILOSOPHICAL SIDE OF EDUCATION TO THE DETRIMENT OF OTHER FIELDS SUCH AS AGRICULTURE AND TECHNICAL SUBJECTS. U.S. SIDE EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT GOC APPARENTLY VIEWED CULTURAL SECTION AS PLACE TO PROVIDE FOR EXHANGES IN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL AREAS. GOC SIDE REPLIED THAT "EDUCATION" NATURALLY INCLUDED SCIENCE. COMMENT: U.S. SIDE HAS ALREADY REPEATEDLY MENTIONED SCIENCE IN CULTURAL SECTION --FOR EXAMPLE BY AGREEING TO "EXCHANGE OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY AT SCHOOLS, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS." INCLUSION OF REFERENCE TO ECOLOGY CONFIDENTIAL

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INTER ALIA. WE PLAN TO MAINTAIN POSITION THAT CZECHOSLOVAKS HAVE TO ACCEPT SPECIFIC MENTION OF "HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES" FOR PROPER BALANCE. END COMMENT.

- 8. STUDENTS ZEMLA REITERATED GOC POLICY OF SENDING ONLY GRADUATE STUDENTS ABROAD, AND SAID THAT AN AGREEMENT WHICH APPEARED TO CONTRADICT THIS POLICY WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE. PLEASE ADVISE THIS POINT.
- 9. AS USUAL, CZECHOSLOVAKS ASKED THAT WORD "INSTITUTIONS" PRECEDE "INDIVIDUALS" IN FIRST PARAGRAPH OF CULTURAL SECTION. IN ADDITION WORD "TEAM" SHOULD IN CZECHOSLOVAK VIEW, PRECEDE WORD "INDIVIDUALS" IN

CALUSE ON SPORTS COOPERATION. WE SEE NO PROBLEM WITH SUCH PLACEMENT.

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- 10. WE AGREED TO DROP TERM "ACADEMIC" ENTLILCEBIN PARAGRAPH ON PERFORMING ARTISTS (REFTEL E).
- 11. CULTURAL CENTERS CZECHOSLOVAKS ADAMANTLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT MENTION OF CULTURAL CENTERS. THEY CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN THAT IDEA OF EXCHANGING CULTURAL CENTERS WITH "CAPITALIST" COUNTRIES WAS "PREMATURE", THAT ONLY OTHER "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES HAD CULTURAL CENTERS IN PRAGUE, AND THAT IT WOULD REQUIRE A SEPARATE AGREEMTNT TO ESTABLISH SUCH CENTERS. LONG ARGUMENT ENSUED, WITH OUR SIDE POINTING TO U.S. CENTERS IN OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, BUT CZECHOSLOVAKS WOULD NOT BUDGE.
- 12. SPORTS CZECHOSLOVAK SIDE "FORMALLY REQUESTED" THAT PARAGRAPH ON SPORTS COOPERATION BE MADE A SEPARATE ARTICLE. DOES DEPARTMENT OBJECT?
- 13. HEALTH CARE DR. ZEMLA NOTED THAT U.S. REVISED DRAFT OMOTTED REFERENCE TO COOPERATION IN FIELD OF HEALTH. AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED SITUATION IN ACCORDDANCE WITH REF. E, BUT GOC SIDE PERSISTED IN WANTING SOME

MENTION.

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14. MEDIA COOPERATION - CZECHOSLOVAKS ACCEPTED IN TOTO THE FIRST ANDD SECOND PARAGRAPHS OF U.S. ARTICLE ON MEDIA COOPERATION (REF. A, PARA 18), BUT REFUSED TO MENTION "PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSPAPERS." THEY ALSO ASKED THAT LANGUAGE ON MEDIA COOPERATION FORM A SEPARATE ARTICLE. ARGUMENT WAS TWO-PRONGED: FIRST, THAT WESTERN PRESS ATTACKS CZECHOSLOVAK LEADERS, AND SECOND THAT CZECH IS NOT A WELL-KNOWN LANGUAGE IN U.S., HENCE EXCHANGE WOULD BE ONE-SIDED. ARGUMENT ENSUED, BUT IN THE END CZECHOSLOVAKS ADAMANTLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT U.S. LANGUAGE. EMBASSY TEAM HAS DEVELOPED THE FOLLOWING COMPROMISE LANGUAGE AND REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL:

QUOTE THE CONTRACTING PARTIES SHALL... ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF BOOKS, PERIODICALS, NEWSPAPERS, AND OTHER MATERIALS DESIGNED TO INCREASE KNOWLEDGE OF THE PEOPLES AND CULTURES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. END QUOTE. IF CZECHOSLOVAKS ADAMANTLY REJECT REF TO "NEWSPAPERS", REQUEST GUIDANCE ON DROPPING IT. AMBASSADOR ASKED DR. ZEMLA, IN SPITE OF HIS DISTASTE FOR THE SUBJECT, TO COME UP WITH A REVISED DRAFT ON MEDIA COOPERATION FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

15. TOURISM - CZECHOSLOVAKS ACCEPTED U.S. REVISED ARTICLE ON TOURISM (PARA 20, REF A).

16. FINAL PROVISIONS - CZECHOSLOVAKS ASKED FOR U.S. REACTION TO "GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS" TABLED SEPTEMBER 2 (REF F). WE HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT U.S. VERSION OF ARTICLE RESPECTING CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES WAS ACCEPTABLE TO CZECHOSLOVAKS, BUT WILL MAKE CERTAIN AT NEXT MEETING.

17. DURATION OF AGREEMNT - CZECHOSLOVAKS FOR VARIOUS REASONS WOULD PREFER THAT AGREEMENT REMAIN IN FORCE FOR PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS AND BE AUTOMATICALLY EXTENDED FOR PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS UNLESS TERMINATED BY EITHER PARTY (REF F). U.S. SIDE ARGUED THAT TWO-YEAR TRIAL PERIOD WOULD GIVE PARTIES A CHANCE TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT AND MAKE ANY CHANGES CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT MIGHT PROVE NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE. BOTH SIDES MAINTAINED POSITIONS ON THIS ISSUE. REQUEST DEPARTMENTS REACTION TO COMPROMISE CALLING FOR TWO-YEAR INITIAL AGREEMENT, WITH AUTOMATIC ANNUAL RENEWAL UP TO PERIOD TOTALLING FIVE YEARS FROM DATE OF SIGNATURE OF THE ACCORD.

18. NEXT STEPS - AT MEETING OCTOBER 1, EMBASSY PROPOSES, WITH DEPARTMENT'S APPROVAL, TO OFFER TO INCLUDE BRIEF REFERENCE TO HEALTH CARE, POSSIBLY FOLLOWING "ECOLOGY" IN ITEM H OF THE CULTURAL SECTION, AND TO PATENTS AND LICENSING, IN RETURN FOR WHICH WE WOULD REQUIRE REFERENCE TO CULTURAL CENTERS. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO OFFER LANGUAGE ON MEDIA COOPERATION AS PROPOSED PARA 14.

19. AS FOR FURTHER STEPS, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO POINTS RAISED INPARAS 3, 4, 12, 14, 17 AND 19 ABOVE BY COB WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29. BYRNE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, CULTURAL EXCHANGES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 24 SEP 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ultricre
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PRAGUE02792

Document Number: 1976PRAGUE02792 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760361-0446

From: PRAGUE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760923/aaaaatcg.tel Line Count: 299

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 6

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 PRAGUE 2550, 76 PRAGUE 2448, 76 PRAGUE 2551, 76 STATE 224549

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: ullricre

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 09 APR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by ullricre>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CULTURAL-SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES TALKS TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, CZ, US
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006